

Hi, are deleted, nor the "whether registration has been made to group table" cells are set to "x." In addition, two numbers belonging to the same group are not separated, either. Therefore, the process for setting the entry corresponding to the individual number  $H_i$  into the tables does not break the requirements satisfied by the processes for the individual numbers up to  $H_{i-1}$ , followed by  $H_i$ . Consequently, it is inductively understood that, when the processes related to the entries of all individual numbers  $H_i$ , shown in Fig. 11, have been finished, the requirements for the entries of all individual numbers  $H_1$  to  $H_i$  are satisfied.

Changes in the attention-destination table and in the group table, made in the processing shown by the flowchart of Fig. 11 will be described below by examples. It is assumed here that the group table has a state shown in Fig. 7 as initial states, and the attention-destination table has a state shown in Fig. 10 when group-determination information has been input. Changes in the attention-destination table and the group table will be explained.

The setting of the entry of the conference participant  $H_1$  (having an individual number of  $H_1$ ) will be described first.

Since the "whether registration has been made to group table" cell is "x," it is determined in step S51 of Fig. 11

that NO is obtained, and the entry corresponding to the individual number H1 is input to the group table in the next step S52. As a result of the process of step S52, the "number of members" for a group number G1 having the smallest number is set to one, and the individual number H1 is input to the "member" column, as shown in Fig. 12. The "whether registration has been made to group table" cell for the individual number H1 is changed to "O" in the attention-destination table as shown in Fig. 13.

Then, it is determined in step S53 that YES is obtained. Since the attention destination is A3 indicating the conference participant HM3, and the "whether registration has been made to group table" cell for the entry of the individual number H3 is "x," as shown in Fig. 13, it is determined in step S54 that NO is obtained. As a result, in step S58, the individual number H3 of the attention destination is input to the group G1, which is the "self group." In the group table, the "number of members" in the group G1 is set to two and its members are H1 and H3 in the group table as shown in Fig. 14. In the attention-destination table, the "whether registration has been made to group table" cells for the individual numbers H1 and H3 are set to "O" as shown in Fig. 15.

The setting of the entry of the conference participant HM1 (having an individual number of H1) has been finished.

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The setting of the entry of the conference participant HM2 (having an individual number of H2) will be described next.

Since the "whether registration has been made to group table" cell is "x" when the entry corresponding to the individual number H2 is input to the tables, it is determined in step S51 of Fig. 11 that NO is obtained, and the entry corresponding to the individual number H2 is input to the group table in the next step S52. As a result of the process of step S52, the number of members for a group number G2 having the next smallest number is set to one, and the individual number H2 is input to the member column, as shown in Fig. 16. The "whether registration has been made to group table" cell for the individual number H2 is changed to "O" in the attention-destination table as shown in Fig. 17. Since the attention-destination number of the individual number H2 is A0 as shown in the case of Fig. 17, the setting of the entry of the conference participant HM2 has been finished at this point.

The setting of the entry of the conference participant HM3 (having an individual number of H3) will be described next.

Since the "whether registration has been made to group table" cell is "O" as shown in Fig. 15 when the entry corresponding to the individual number H3 is input to the

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